

Bonny Jain, an eighth-grader from Moline, Illinois, won the National Geographic Bee in May, collecting \$25,000 and a lifetime National Geographic Society membership. Bonny moved from Kota, Rajasthan, to the United States in 1997, at the age of 3, with parents Beena and Rohit, a software engineer, and sister Riya. Mary Lee Elden, founder and head of the National Geographic Bee and the World Championship, plans to speak at the November 5-8, 2006, GeoFest in Lucknow. Also, India is holding an annual geography competition to form a team for the World Championship in August 2007 at SeaWorld San Diego, California.

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NEWS SCAPE

Fulbright scholar Dr. Nina S. Roberts, an assistant professor at San Francisco State University, in California, who is affiliated with the Indian Ministry of Environment and Forests, evaluated the National Green Corps Eco-clubs across India. She also shared her knowledge of environmental education and youth programs with students in the Sirmour district of Himachal Pradesh, as part of World Environment Day activities in June.



R.P. SINGH



MANOJ PUNJABI

Spokane, Washington-based theater director Brian Russo coaches an aspiring actor during auditions for a July 28-29 production of American playwright Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*, sponsored by the State Department's Culture Connect program and SPANDAN, a Calcutta arts and cultural organization.